

teeth, retromargin with four or five. *Maxillae*: light yellowish brown. *Labium*: blackish edged pale yellow-brown. *Sternum*: yellow-brown, shiny, thinly clothed in fine greyish hairs. *Abdomen*: yellow-brown lightly tinged and mottled black with a poorly defined orange-brown scutum and chevrons dorsally, and three rather vague longitudinal bands ventrally; spinnerets yellow-brown lightly tinged black. *Legs*: moderately long and slender; femoral organ (Fig. 19A–C) a low tubercle; yellow-brown tinged with some black except metatarsi and tarsi which are darker—orange-brown tinged black, also on underside of femora I–II a transverse blackish patch; spines strong and numerous. Spination of leg I: metatarsus v 2–0–0, p 1–1–1, d 0–1–2, r 1–1–1; tibia v 2–2–2, p 1–1–0, d 1–1–0, r 1–1–0; patella p 0–1–0, r 0–1–0; femur d 0–2–4. *Palp* (Fig. 8C–E): the retrolateral tibial apophysis is broken at point arrowed in Fig. 8E; however, note that in Fig. 8C i.e. the same palp but drawn from a different angle, the appearance of the retrolateral tibial apophysis has been reconstructed from the apophysis of the other palp.

Dimensions (mm): total length 3.8; carapace length 1.76, breadth 1.36, height 1.1; abdomen length 1.92; eyes, anterior row 1.27, middle row 1.2, posterior row 1.35; quadrangle length 0.94 (53% of carapace length).

Leg	1	2	3	4	Palp
Femur	1.16	1.12	1.19	1.46	0.60
Patella	0.60	0.60	0.52	0.56	0.32
Tibia	0.84	0.80	0.88	1.16	0.24
Metatarsus	0.80	0.78	0.88	1.28	—
Tarsus	0.52	0.48	0.56	0.60	0.72
Total	3.90	3.78	4.03	5.06	1.88

Ratios: AM : AL : PM : PL :: 9.5 : 5.5 : 3.5 : 5.5; AL—PM—PL :: 6.7; AM : CL :: 9.5 : 3.3.

DISTRIBUTION. Borneo, Sabah.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. **Borneo**: Sabah, Tuaran Division, Mt. Kinabalu National Park, Power Station—Layang Layang, cloud forest, holotype ♂, 2000–2800 m, 7.ii.1976 P. T. Lehtinen, (TU, Turku).

REMARK. The presence of a vacuole in the base of the retrolateral tibial apophysis suggests that there is probably a distal opening. There is insufficient material for this to be confirmed by SEM.

ETYMOLOGY. The specific name is from the Latin meaning misty, cloudy places.

Mintonia silvicola sp. n.

(Fig. 9A–G)

DIAGNOSIS. *M. silvicola* seems to be most closely related to *M. tauricornis* Wanless, but may be readily distinguished by the syringe-shaped retrolateral tibial apophysis (Fig. 9E).

FEMALE. Unknown.

MALE HOLOTYPE, rubbed, also right leg I missing, otherwise in fair condition. *Carapace* (Fig. 9A, B): weakly iridescent under some angles of illumination; orange-brown with faint blackish mottling on sides. *Eyes*: laterals with black surrounds; anteriors fringed by whitish hairs. *Clypeus*: orange-brown with blackish margin below anterior median eyes and vague yellow-brown markings clothed in whitish hairs below anterior laterals. *Chelicerae*: yellow-brown, shiny, clothed in white hairs proximally and scattered brown hairs distally with dense promarginal scopulae; promargin with three teeth, retromargin with eight (Fig. 9G). *Maxillae*: yellow-brown with inner distal margins paler. *Labium*: yellow-brown faintly tinged grey. *Sternum*: pale yellow with vague darker margins; thinly clothed in fine pale yellow hairs. *Coxae*: pale yellow. *Abdomen*: pale yellow

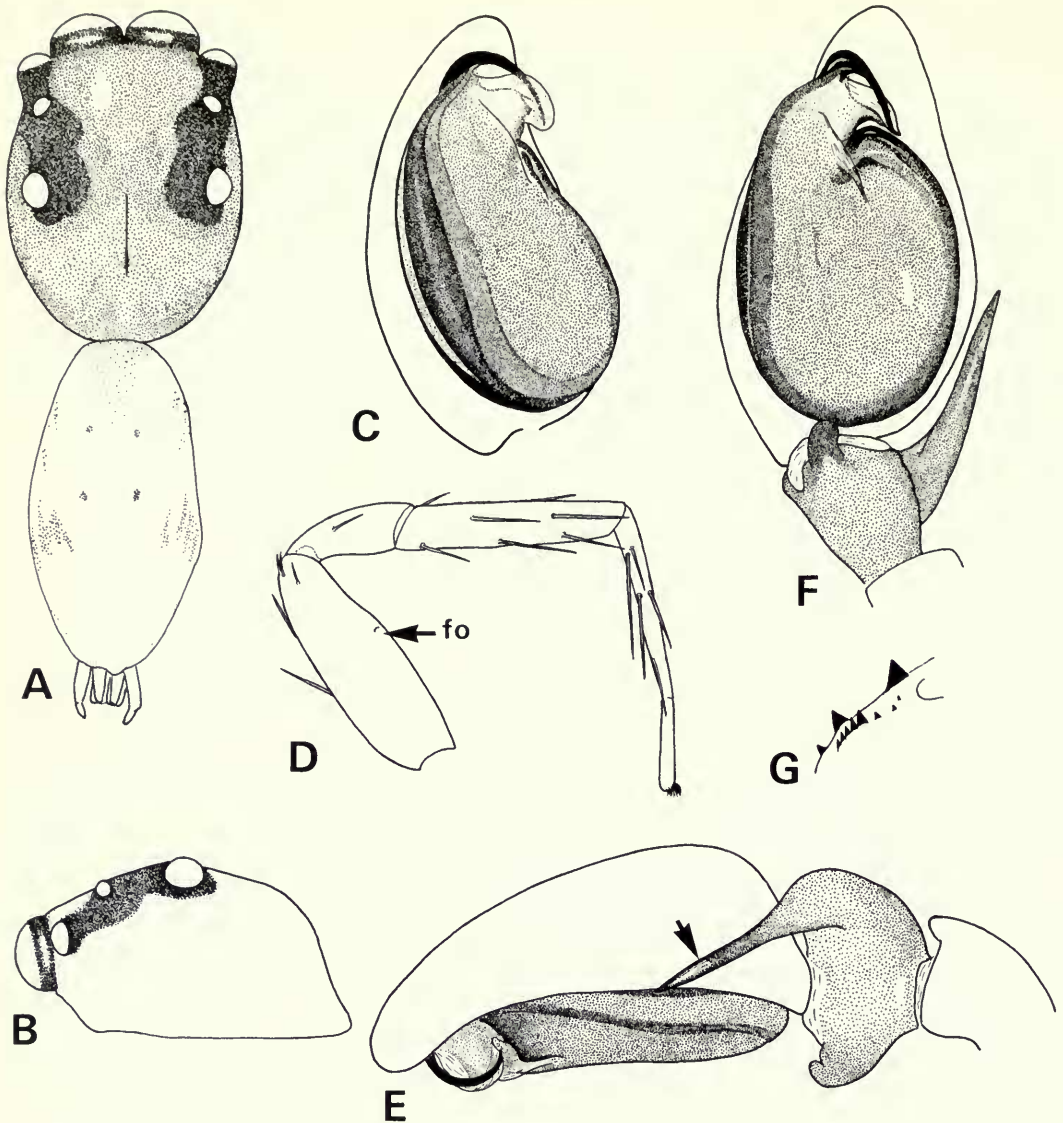


Fig. 9. *Mintonia silvicola* sp. n., holotype ♂: A, dorsal view; B, carapace, lateral view; C, palp, ventro-lateral view; D, leg I; E, palp, retrolateral view; F, palp, ventral view; G, cheliceral teeth. Abbreviation: fo, femoral organ.

with vague sooty markings and two pairs of sigilla; rubbed; spinnerets moderately long, yellow-brown. *Legs*: moderately long and slender; specialized prey capture and metatarsal setae lacking; femoral organ appearing as a low dark amber mound; legs I pale yellow to yellow-brown with underside of femora tinged black; other legs pale yellow grading to yellow-brown distally with ventral longitudinal grey stripe on tibiae II–III; spines numerous and moderately strong. Spination of leg I: metatarsus v 2–0–0, r 1–1–1, d 0–2–2, p 1–1–1; tibia v 2–2–2, p 1–1–0, d 1–1–0, r 1–1–0; patella p 0–1–0, r 0–1–0; femur d 0–2–4. *Palp* (Fig. 9C, E, F): element M2 lies above the embolus and the tegular ledge is poorly developed; the opening of the retrolateral tibial apophysis (arrow, Fig. 9E) is distinct.

Dimensions (mm): total length 5.1; carapace length 2.24, breadth 1.88, height 1.44; abdomen length 2.6; eyes, anterior row 1.71, middle row 1.48, posterior row 1.64; quadrangle length 1.32 (58% of carapace length).

Leg	1	2	3	4	Palp
Femur	1.72	1.72	1.72	2.04	0.84
Patella	0.88	0.84	0.76	0.80	0.40
Tibia	1.36	1.28	1.34	1.64	0.34
Metatarsus	1.28	1.26	1.44	1.80	—
Tarsus	0.64	0.64	0.72	0.76	1.12
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Total	5.88	5.74	5.98	7.04	2.70

Ratios: AM : AL : PM : PL :: 14 : 8 : 5.4 : 8; AL—PM—PL :: 8—9.5; AM : CL :: 14 : 3.

DISTRIBUTION. West Malaysia.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. **West Malaysia**: Pahang State, Taman Negara, holotype ♂, from buttress of large tree, lowland rain forest nr. Kuala Tahan, 3–10.iii.1984. *P. D. Hillyard*, BMNH. 1985.8.21.1.

ETYMOLOGY. The specific name is from the Latin meaning inhabiting woods.

Genus *TARAXELLA* Wanless

Taraxella Wanless, 1984a: 155. [definition and diagnosis].

This genus was originally erected on the basis of a single male of *Taraxella solitaria* Wanless, from Sarawak. Subsequent collections have produced four new species, described below, that necessitate modifications to the original generic definition.

DEFINITION. Spiders small to medium in size, i.e. between 2.0 and 8.0 mm in length; males sometimes with conspicuous encircling band on the carapace; sexual dimorphism sometimes evident in colour patterns.

Carapace: high, longer than broad, widest at about level of coxae II–III; fovea long and sulci-form, apex at level of centre of posterior lateral eyes. *Eyes*: anterior medians more or less level or weakly procurved in frontal view; posterior medians small to relatively large; posterior laterals with outer margins of lenses set inside or at level of, lateral margins of carapace when viewed from above; entire quadrangle length between 57–65% of carapace length. *Clypeus*: low to moderately high. *Chelicerae*: promargin with five or seven teeth, retromargin with seven or nine denticles. *Legs*: moderately long and slender; femoral organs lacking; specialized prey capture tarsal setae and filamentous metatarsal setae also lacking. *Female palps*: moderately long and slender with apical claw. *Epigynes*: interspecifically distinct, see descriptions; vulvae not examined, insufficient material. *Male palps*: complex and interspecifically distinct; retrolateral tibial apophyses complex, sometimes bifid with sharp slender prongs, or evidently reduced with associated stout setae; apophyses X and Y variable in development; embolus short slender and gently curved, and for the most part obscured, in ventral view, by tegular apophyses X and occasionally Y; tegular furrow and ventral apophysis usually conspicuous; M1, see Wanless 1984a, a delicate fan-shaped lamella that protrudes beyond the distal edge of the tegulum. Expanded palps not examined.

DIAGNOSIS. Distinguished from other spartaeines by the conformation of the embolus of the male palp which is almost completely obscured, in ventral view, by tegular apophyses 'X' and occasionally 'Y'.

An identification key is not provided as the five known species are easily separated from one another by the structure of the palpal organs and epigynes.

INTERSPECIFIC RELATIONSHIPS. To judge from the structure of the tibia of the male palpal organs *T. solitaria*, *T. petrensis* sp. n., and *T. hillyardi* sp. n., form a closely related group since they all possess retrolateral tibial apophyses with a sharp dorsal prong. *T. sumatrana* sp. n., and *T. reinholdae*